# Town of Cumberland, Indiana & Historic National Road

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## President, Cumberland GAP

Cumberland GAP

Citizens for Growth and Progress

Project Setting
Edge of Indianapolis

- Cumberland Indiana pop. 6,000

- An edge city, a formerly small town being swallowed up by the urban sprawl of Indianapolis
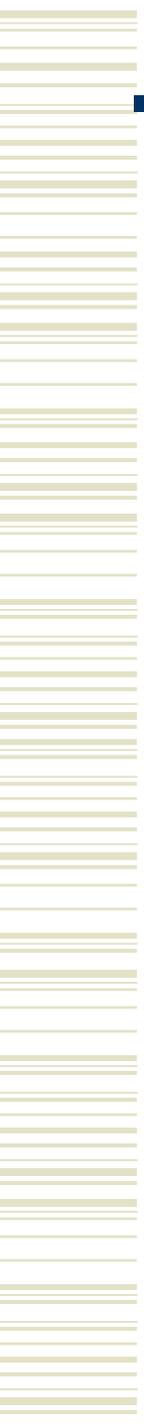
Project Setting
On Indiana's Historic National Road

- On the **Historic National Road** a federally designated All American Road, one of America's Byways

- All American Roads reflect "the best of the best"

Project Setting
America's Byways

- Byways are high profile – they attract attention

- Byways represent OPPORTUNITIES to do things better or differently

- They serve as models or prototypes for non-byway projects
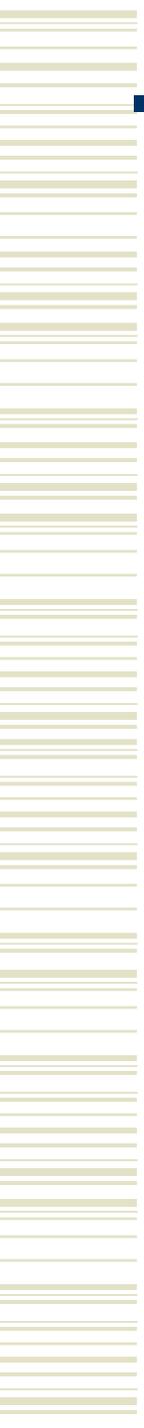
Project Problem
Town lacks definition

- Where is the town?

- No Boundaries, no edges

- Urban sprawl from Indianapolis

Project Problem
Conflicting Needs

Main Street is a Highway

Project Process
Balancing needs of the DOT with needs of the Community

- ◆ Public sometimes not organized
  - ■ Interest groups such as neighborhood organizations not always present
  - ■ If no group is present, create one

- ◆ Public not always able to articulate what they want
  - ■ May not be familiar with the issues
  - ■ May not share a vocabulary

Project Process
Balancing needs of the DOT
with needs of the Community

- DOT good at designing roads for moving traffic

- Must recognize that roads have impact beyond moving traffic

- Must design for those "other" impacts

Project Process
Community Building

- Historic Landmarks "Top 10 Endangered" list

- Cumberland GAP was formed

- INRA became active in the project

- Town hired Landscape Architecture firm
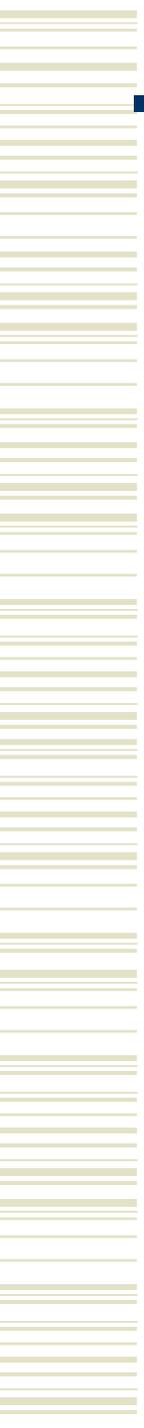
Project Process
Design Options Explored

◆ AASHTO allows for flexibility

◆ Thinking Beyond the Pavement

◆ National Byway designation provides incentive and funding for context sensitive design solutions

Project Process
Solution

Context Sensitive Solutions
The Future